A SHORT DISCOVRSE OF THE *NEW-FOVND-LAND:*

CONTAYNIG

DIVERSE REASONS

and inducements, for the planting of that *Countrey.*

Published for the satisfaction of all such as shall be willing to be Adventurers in the said Plantation.

DVBLIN,

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BRITISH MUSEUM

TO THE RIGHT HONOVRABLE HENRY Lo: CARY, Viſcount of *Falkland*, Lo: Deputie generall of IRELAND, and one of his Majeſties moſt honourable privie Councell in the Realme of *England*.

MY LORD:

Preſent unto the view of your judicious cenſure, this ſhort Diſcourſe, or rather, an abſtract of a Diſcourſe, intended only as a ſatisfaction unto ſuch, as may be willing to joyne with your Lordſhip, in ſo noble a deſigne as is the plantation of the Newfound-land: *wherein it is not to be doubted, but that many will follow your Lordſhips ſtepps in ſo honourable a VVorke, eſpecially in this Kingdome, where the name of a* Plantation *is ſo farre from being a ſtranger, as it hath beene the*

originall cauſe from whence very many have de-
rived their happineſſe. I cannot denie, but that the
weake handling of this diſcourſe, better beſeemes
the poore demonſtration of my zeale to your Lord-
ſhips ſervice, then any poſſibility to comprehend the
worthineſſe of the action, within the compaſſe of a
bare relation. Such as it is, I could eaſily ſet downe,
having the ſame before, as it were, made to my
hands, by ſuch as have beene eye-witneſſes of what-
ſoever is here related: ſo that I may fitly anſwer
with Ariſtophans, *to one that demanded, whether*
the Comedy, by him promiſed, were performed; It
is made (quoth he) and wants nothing but the put-
ting in verſe. As it was delivered to me, ſo I re-
commend it to your Lordſhips protection, and ſur-
ceaſe any further writing, leaſt I might wiſh that
the ſaying were verified to me, Tibi ſilentiũ laus.

Your Lordſhips

humble ſervant,

T. C.

A DISCOVRSE OF THE NEVV-FOUND-LAND.

THere are five things, which seeme as it were with one consent to render the plantation of *Newfoundland* happie and prosperous: which will evidently appeare upon examination of the proposition ensuing. *viz.* That the action is Honourable, Lawfull, Profitable, Easie and Necessarie.

The Honour of the action is double: for first, it tends to the honour of God in propagating of Religion; so as by this meanes that countrey which hitherto hath onely served as a den for wilde beasts, shal not only be repleat with Christian inhabitants, but the Savages who live in the adjoining continent of *America* (amongst whom not so much as the name of Christ hath ever beene yet heard) may in time

The Honour of the action.

time be reduced to Civilitie and Religion. Secondly, it tends to the honour of his Majeſtie, and that by the addition of Territory, and encreaſe of Dominion, for as much as by the only plantation of *Newfoundland*, an Iland every way as bigge and ſpacious as *Ireland*, may without bloudſhed or uſurpation, be brought to bow under the waight of his royall Scepter.

The Lawfulneſſe of the action.

The Lawfulneſs of the cauſe, will be made plaine by this: in as much as it cannot be proved, that any part of that country, comprehended within his Majeſties grant, hath ever yet beene inhabited either by Chriſtian or Infidell; ſo as by this plantation wee ſhall be ſo farre from wronging any Prince or State, or diſeiſing any man of his inheritance, as wee ſhall performe a worke no doubt acceptable to God, in making true uſe of that which from all eternitie was created for the benefite of mankinde.

2 His Majeſties undoubted right to this countrey, is next to be conſidered: for firſt of all, it was diſcovered by *Sebaſtian Cabot*, in the name and at the proper charges of *Henry* the ſeventh King of *England*, in the yeare 1596.

which is about 127. yeares ſince, and immediately upon the diſcoverie of the Indies by *Chriſtopherus Columbus.*

3 This diſcovery was ſtrengthened by the actuall poſſeſsion which Sir *Humfrey Gilbert* Knight tooke thereof, in the yeare 1583. in the name and to the uſe of Queene *Elizabeth* of famous memory. for a perpetuall witneſſe whereof, hee erected on the ſhoare a Pillar, whereupon the royall Atmes of *England* were ſupported.

4 Which poſſeſsion of his, hath ſince received perfection by ſeverall plantations, made thither from *England* by vertue of his Majeſties Letters Patt. as the London plantation, which hath beene ſetled there this xij. yeares: the Briſtoll plantation, this v. yeares; and the plantation of the right honourable Sir *George Calvert* Knight, (principall Secretarie to his Majeſtie) for this ij. yeares laſt paſt.

The Profite which may ariſe by this plantation.

The Profite which may ariſe by this plantation, is firſt of all communicated to the king by augmentation of his cuſtoms & revenues: to the State, by encreaſe of Ships & Mariners: to the Kingdome of *Ireland* (from whence this plantation is to be undertaken) in gene-

rall, and to each private Adventurer thereof in particular.

The generall profite.

The generall profite which may accrue hereby to *Ireland*, is as followeth. Firſt, it will open a way, whereby the commodities of this Kingdome may be vented, as Beefe, Porke, Butter, Cheeſe, Aqua-vitæ, and all ſorts of victualls; as alſo Ruggs, Friſes, linnen cloth, &c. Next of all, it will eſtabliſh manufactures, by ſetting people on worke in building of ſhips, making of Netts, Ropes, Lines, Hookes, Sailes and Pullies. Beſides, it will relieve a great number of other trades, as Brewers, Bakers, Coopers, Carpenters, Smithes, and the like; wherein *Ireland* being defective, it is to bee imagined that, for the hope of gaine, great numbers of them will daily be tranſported from *England*, to the ſingular profite & commoditie of this kingdome. Laſtly, there can no reaſon be given to the contrary, why the forraine vent of the *Newfoundland* fiſh, being ſo acceptable in *France*, *Spaine* and *Italy*, may not yearely returne great quantities of mony.

The particular profite.

The particular profite, which may ariſe at the firſt, by this trade, to each private Adventurer, proceedeth chiefly from the excellent

fiſhing

fiſhing upon that coaſt; which is a thing ſo univerſally knowne, as the fame thereof hath long ſince beene ſpred through all the parts of Chriſtendome: witneſſes hereof may be the French, Biskaners and Portingalls, who yearly ſend thither, and to the parts adjoyning, for that only trade of fiſhing, more then 400. ſayle of Ships: of the Engliſh there are yearely at the leaſt 250. ſaile of Ships great & ſmall, which by computation cannot take leſſe fiſh then will amount in money to 120000. li. being ſold in *England* after the rate of 4. li. the 1000. (which is not one penny a fiſh). Beſides, the Treyne Oyle, which (being under-valued at 12. li. the tunne in *England*) amounteth to the ſumme of 15000. li. omitting to reckon the over-prices, which are made by the ſale thereof, in forraine parts.

Neyther is the trade of fiſhing a thing in it ſelfe contemptible, ſeeing it is well knowne to be the chiefeſt trade, and principall gold-mine of the united Provinces of the Low-countries, and the only meanes whereby they have not onely ſupported themſelves againſt their powerfull adverſaries, but in the middeſt of their warres they have growne to ſuch ex-

ceſsive wealth and power, as their ſtrong and bewtifull townes, their plenty of gold and ſilver, their multitude of ſhips & mariners, may ſufficiently witneſſe, to the admiration of the whole world.

Another commoditie may be had there, which may prove in time wonderfull beneficiall to the Adventurers; and that is the making of Salt: for whereas there is yearely carried thither, by the Engliſh alone, to the value of 7000. li. worth of Salt, not reckoning the fraight, which will ariſe to 7000. li. more: and whereas it ſtands thoſe that carrie it thither now, at the leaſt xx.d. the buſhell, it may be made in *Newfoundland* (Pannes being erected for the ſame purpoſe) under the value of iij.d. the buſhell. which may eaſily be performed, in regard that one Panne will make above 20. Buſhels of good Salt in every 24. houres, onely with one mans labour; the ſalt water & fire-wood excepted, which may be there had with little paines and no charge.

The profite by the land commodities.

The profite which may come by the land plantation, is queſtionleſſe very great, if the skinnes and furres of the wilde Beaſts onely, which are there found in great quantity, were

duely valued. As for example; Deere, Bevers, Marterns, blacke Foxes, Seales, Otters, Ounces or Leopards, Buffles, Luſarnes and Sables: of which skinnes there have in one yeare beene brought into *France* (from thoſe Weſterne parts) not ſo few as 25000. It appeares by an Act of Parliament made 2. *Ed.* 6. that the Trade out of *England* to *Newfoundland*, was commonly frequented in thoſe dayes: which being neer 80. yeres ſince, its to be marvailed, that by the negligence of our men, the countrey, in all this time, hath beene no better ſearched. Yet upon ſuch ſlender relations as the Fiſhermen make after their yearely voyages thither, it may certainly be concluded, that there is nothing which our Eaſt and Northerly countries of *Europe* yeeld, but the like alſo may be had from thence as plentifully by time & induſtry, namely, Ropes, Pitch, Tarre, Soape-aſhes, Deale-boords, Maſts for Shipps, Hydes, Furres, Flaxe, Hempe, Corne, and many more.

Ann. Dom. 1584.

The facilitie and Eaſineſſe of this plantation, may bee made apparant divers wayes: firſt, in regard of the neereneſſe in ſituation;

The Eaſineſſe of this plantation.

it being not above twelve or foureteene dayes sayle from the West of *Ireland* : in relation to which, it is the next countrey unto it of any part of AMERICA, and neere halfe the way betweene *Ireland* and *Virginia*.

Secondly, in regard of the healthfulnesse and temperature of the ayre ; it lying betweene the degrees of 46. and 53. Northerly Latitude. A clyme approved, both by reason and experience, to bee farre more agreeable to our constitutions, then countries lying neerer the Sunne, and consequently abounding with excessive heate. As for the opinion, conceived by diverse Marriners, of the extremitie of colde in that countrey, because sometimes they finde it so when the Isles of Ice passe alongst the shoare: it may bee answered, That the Ice found there in the Spring of the yeare, is not originally of that clymate, but rather comes from the more Northerly partes of the world, driven by the Northerly windes, neere that coast ; where (within a verie short time) it is consumed by the warmth of the countrey.

trey. For proofe whereof, the Letters written from thence the ſeventeenth of Auguſt laſt 1622. from Captaine WYNE, Governour of Maſter Secretarie CALVERTS plantation, may bee alledged, whoſe verie wordes are theſe: *Neyther was it ſo colde here the laſt VVinter as in* ENGLAND *the yeare before. I remember but three ſeverall dayes of hard weather indeede, and they not extreame neyther: for I have knowne greater Froſts, and farre greater Snows in our owne countrey.*

A third inducement for the eaſie planting of this countrey, is the commoditie of ſhipping, which yearely goe thither out of *England*, in a manner emptie, to the number of two hundred and fiftie ſayle; whereby the proviſions for the plantation may not onely be carried at an eaſie rate, but the planters, everie five moneths, much comforted with the ſight of a great number of their countreymen.

Fourthly, omitting to ſpeake of the ſecuritie this plantation hath from the invaſion of the Savages, there being never anie ſeene in thoſe parts, nor within two or three hun-

dred miles off the intended plantation. Likewiſe letting paſſe the ſecuritie of this Trade from the imbargement of forraine Princes, it is neceſſarie that ſomething be ſpoken of the commodities which the countrey yeelds for the uſe and behoofe of man.

The Woods of the countrey are Firre trees, able to maſt anie Shippe, Pines and Cypreſſe trees, all yeelding Gumme and Turpentine: There are alſo Oakes, Ceders, Hathornes, Birch-trees, Alder, Willow, Filberds, Cherrie-trees, Peare-trees, Mulberry-trees, &c. Roſes as common as Brambles; Straw-berries, Gooſe-berries, and Raſpis as common as graſſe. There is much open ground, producing excellent graſſe; whereof the large breede of cattell, in the Northerne plantation there, hath given proofe ſufficient. The countrey is repleniſht with manie goodly Springs, Rivers, and Lakes, and thoſe very delightfull and wholſome. There are great ſtore of Hawkes, Partridges, Pheaſants, Thruſhes, Black-birds, Canary birds, Nightingales, &c. There are alſo infinite numbers of Geeſe, Duckes, Pigeons, Gulls, Penguins,

guins, Godwits, Curlewes, Swanns, &c. The Rivers and Harbours are ſtored with Salmonds, Peales, Eeles, Herring, Mackarell, Flounders, Cod, Trouts, Lobſters, Cre-fiſh, Oyſters and Muskles: in the later of which, there have beene found above fortie Pearles in one Muskle, and generally all have ſome. There is a certaine report of a Portugall that found one Pearle worth three hundred Duccats.

Such Engliſh Seedes as are tranſplanted, there proſper aſwell, and better, then in *England*, as Beanes exceeding good, Peaſe as high as a man of extraordinarie ſtature, Raddiſh, Cabbedge, Turneps, Carretts, and all the reſt of the like goodneſſe. At the *Briſtow* plantation there was as goodly corne the laſt Summer as can be in anie part of *England*. They are alſo well furniſhed with Swine, and a large breed of Goats, fairer by farre then thoſe that were ſent over at firſt. The Vines which were ſent thither, doe proſper very well, whereby it is to be aſſured that anie thing that growes in *England*, will thrive and flouriſh there exceedingly.

Lastly, the present and speedie returne of commoditie the first yeare by the fishing onely, is a matter of no small consequence for the easie support and upholding of this plantation : which will the more plainly bee made manifest, if the manie advantages and commodities, which the Planters have over them who onely come to fish, and returne againe, be righly and truely considered.

For first, they who both fish and plant, neede carrie no more men then they doe which goe to fish onely. For example : a Shippe or Barque which usualy doth carrie thither foure and thirtie men, doth not make use of above twentie of them for sayling of the same Shippe; so that the other foureteene serve for nothing but building of stages, barrelling and salting of fish, and other the like land imployments : insomuch that both in going thither and returning back, they are but needlesse and unprofitable feeders. Now these being left there, the charge of transporting and feeding them is not onely saved; but the ship (which before was cumbred

with

with them and their proviſions) is, by this meanes, become more capable of any maner of fraight.

Next, they (who plant aſwell as fiſh) endanger not their ſhippes, in ſetting out too early in the yeare, nor conſume ſo much victualls; as they that goe onely to fiſh, doe, for no other end, but that thereby they may get the better choyſe of harbours and ſtages.

Thirdly, they ſhall have their ſtages, houſes, and boats kept ſafely in their abſence; whereas thoſe who goe for nothing but to fiſh, are at the leaſt twentie dayes in building of new ſtages: likewiſe their Boats are oftentimes ſplit, and moſt yeares many a hundred pounds worth of fiſh ſpoyled meerely for want of houſes and convenient places to put it in.

Fourthly, the Planters, by fiſhing in thoſe times the ſhips are abſent, may continually provide their lading againſt their comming; whereby they may, with eaſe, make three voyages in one Summer: whereas they who fiſh onely, make but one.

Laſtly, they may make Salt there (as hath beene ſaid before) under three pence the buſhell; whereas it ſtands them in, who bring it thither, at the leaſt twentie pence the buſhell.

The Neceſsitie of this plantation.

Now concerning the Neceſsitie of this imployment, and the like, there are two principall inducements: the one whereof, is the decay of Trade; the other, the over-aboundance of people. The decay of Trade is ſo apparant, and the remedies thereof ſo hopeleſſe, conſidering the warres thoroughout Chriſtendome; as theſe times doe fitly ſeeme to paralell the dayes of king EDVVARD the ſixt, wherein ſuch difficultie was then found in everie place for the venting of the Engliſh cloathes, as by an Order of State it was decreed that ſhippes ſhould bee ſent forth under the conduct of Sir *Hugh VVilloughby* and *Richard Chancellor*, for the diſcoverie of new countries, lying towards the Northeaſt, whereby the commodities of *England* might that way bee diſperſed: which deſigne ſucceeded ſo happily, that although Sir *Hugh VVilloughby* loſt

loſt his life in the action, yet *Richard Chancellor* proceeded ſo fortunately and proſperouſly on his voyage, that in the end he diſcovered a paſſage by Sea unto the vaſt dominions of the Emperour of *Ruſsia*, which for that time ſupplied the former defect of trade, by venting great quantities of Engliſh wares, namely Cloath, Tinne, and Leade, into thoſe countries. This trade being now in a maner decayed and loſt, may with as great reaſon and probabilitie, bee renued by new diſcoveries made towards the North-weſt. For, omitting that the Savages (which inhabite upon the firme land of AMERICA) when they come to have but a taſte of civilitie, will make wonderfull account of our garments and apparell, as well for the diverſitie of the colours, wherein they are exceedingly delighted, as for the neceſsitie of covering, eſpecially in thoſe Northerly Regions: yet in another reſpect it may bee effected, and that is by the diſcoverie of the North-weſt paſſage (whereof there is great hope) leading into *China*, *Iapan*, and other rich countries of the Eaſt.

Which paſſage, as it hath beene often attempted by the Engliſh Nation, yet never with ſuch encouragement of ſucceſſe as of late yeares; ſo the countrey of *Newfoundland*, lying in leſſe then ſixe dayes ſaile from the entrance into the ſaid paſſage, may ſerve as a ſingular inſtrument for the accompliſhing of ſo glorious an enterpriſe, which (according to the opinion of *Babtiſta Ramuſius*, and other learned men) hath hitherto beene reſerved for ſome renowmed Prince, or worthie man, whereby hee might make himſelfe rich, and the world happie.

Moreover, the people in theſe parts being encreaſed to ſuch exceſsive numbers, as the land ſeemes alreadie to groane under the multitude of the inhabitants; the disburthening of them at home, and the multiplying of them abroade, were, without all queſtion, a worke of great deſert, and worthie the undertaking: for as much as by this meanes ſo manie reall and royall effects may bee produced, that is to ſay, the Chriſtian Religion propagated, his Majeſties

Domi-

Dominions enlarged, his Cuſtomes and Revenues augmented, numbers of people relieved, the private Adventurers enriched, the commodities of the Kingdome vented, and great wealth in a ſhort time returned.

FINIS.

Condi-

Conditions propounded by the right honorable the Lord Viſcount *Falkland*, Lo: Deputie generall of the Kingdome of IRELAND; to all ſuch as wil joine with him for the plantation of a Colonie in the South-East parts of *Newfoundland*.

WHoſoever doth adventure one hundred pounds, towards the charges of this next yeares voyage, and deliver the ſame unto Sir SAMVEL SMITH *of the Citie of* Dublin *Knight, Treaſurer for the ſaid Plantation, or to the Treaſurer for the time being, before the*

the first of November next ensuing the date hereof, shall not onely have his equall part proportionably of the benefite which may yearely be gotten there by the Fishing; but also such part of the benefite as may be gotten by the labours and industry of those which shall yearely be sent to remaine there, as Servants to the Adventurers, under the command of Sir FRANCIS TANFIELD *Knight, Governour of the Colony, and of such as shall be joyned with him, as assistants, for the well ordring of the intended plantation.*

Also everie such Adventurer as aforesaid, shall likewise have the one halfe part and prerogative of one Harbour, Bay or Roade, lying on the North side of Trinitie Bay, *and the circuit of two thousand acres of such Landes*

and Woods as are next adjoyning thereunto, to be holden in Fee for ever, by the yearely rent of one penny the yeare for every such hundred acres.

Also he shall have in Fee for ever, a convenient place to build a Stage and necessarie roomes to salt Fish on, and to build a dwelling house, and other convenient houses, neere unto the Harbours of Formosa *and* Renowse, *with a sufficient circuit of ground to dry Fish on, and for some other purposes, fit for a ship of foure score tunns burthen.*

Upon condition, that every such Undertaker doe, within three yeares after the date of his Graunt, maintaine upon the said Land, to his owne use and benefite, eight persons at the least: paying as a yearely rent for the same, the summe of ten shillings.

Also

And whosoever shall adventure two hundred pounds, shall have a whole Harbour or Roade to himselfe in Fee, and foure thousand acres of Land, lying on the North side of Trinity Harbour, and ground to build Stages and Houses upon, neere the Harbours of Formosa *and* Renowse, *fit for a Shippes voyage of one hundred and sixtie Tunnes burthen:*

Upon condition, to pay double the rent, and to maintaine as many people more upon his Land, as hee is tyed too, which adventures but one hundred pounds.

And whosoever shall adventure more then one hundred pounds, or lesse, be it foure score, three score, fiftie, thirtie, twentie or ten pounds, shall have more or lesse proportionably in every respect,

what hee ſhall have that adventures two hundred pounds.

Alſo any Labourer or Artificer, that is willing to adventure his perſon in this action, ſhall not onely receive good wages by the yeare, ſuch as he ſhall be agreed withall for at his ſending thither, and have liberty to returne upon halfe a yeares warning, given by him to the Governour in Newfound-land; *but likewiſe have (if hee continue there five yeares) to him and his heyres in Fee, over and above his ſaid yearely wages, one hundred acres of Land, in the South part of that Countrey, if hee will continue there to live, or any other for him, paying but one penny rent by the yeare for the ſaid hundred acres.*

If

POSTSCRIPT.

IF anie man (that wil be an Adventurer, eyther in perſon or purſe) deſire to bee more fully informed, touching anie thing herein contained, let him bee pleaſed to repaire unto Sir *Samuel Smiths* houſe, in the Citie of Dublin aforeſaid, and there he ſhall receive ſuch further ſatisfaction, as hee, or anie other, in reaſon can require.

FINIS.

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